

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-4 (Canceled).

Claim 5 (Currently Amended): A method of treating hair, ~~which comprises using~~ comprising applying to the hair a hair cosmetic composition A and a hair cosmetic composition B in any order, wherein

composition A is A: a first hair cosmetic composition comprising:

(a) [[a]] at least one polycarboxylic acid or a salt thereof, and

(c) [[an]] at least one organic solvent selected from the group consisting of an aromatic alcohol alcohols, an alkylene carbonate carbonates and a polyol polyols,

at a weight ratio of (a)/(c) = 0.6 or greater, and

composition B is a second B: another hair cosmetic composition comprising:

(b) [[a]] at least one hydroxymonocarboxylic acid or a salt thereof, and

(c) [[an]] at least one organic solvent selected from the group consisting of an aromatic alcohol alcohols, an alkylene carbonate carbonates and a polyol, polyols

at a weight ratio of (b)/(c) = 0.25 or greater, and

the pH at 25°C of each of composition A and composition B is from 2 to 5.5 when diluted to 20 times by weight with water.

~~in the order of A followed by B or vice versa.~~

Claim 6 (Currently Amended): The method of treating hair of Claim 5, wherein ~~Component~~ component (a) is malic acid or a salt thereof, and ~~Component~~ component (b) is glycolic acid or lactic acid, or a salt thereof.

Claim 7 (Canceled).

Claim 8 (Currently Amended): A ~~hair quality improving~~ cosmetic set comprising a first hair cosmetic composition A and a second hair cosmetic composition B, wherein two hair cosmetic compositions A and B:

the first A: a hair cosmetic composition A comprises comprising:

(a) [[a]] at least one polycarboxylic acid or a salt thereof, and

(c) ~~[[an]]~~ at least one organic solvent selected from the group consisting of an aromatic ~~alcohol~~ ~~alcohols~~, ~~an~~ alkylene ~~carbonate~~ ~~carbonates~~ and ~~a polyol~~ ~~polyols~~ at a weight ratio of (a)/(c) = 0.6 or greater, and the second B: ~~a hair cosmetic composition B comprises comprising:~~  
(b) ~~[[a]]~~ at least one hydroxymonocarboxylic acid or a salt thereof, and  
(c) ~~[[an]]~~ at least one organic solvent selected from the group consisting of an aromatic ~~alcohol~~ ~~alcohols~~, ~~an~~ alkylene ~~carbonate~~ ~~carbonates~~ and ~~a polyol~~ ~~polyols~~, at a weight ratio of (b)/(c) = 0.25 or greater, and  
the pH at 25°C of each of composition A and composition B is from 2 to 5.5 when diluted to 20 times by weight with water.

Claim 9 (Currently Amended): The ~~hair quality improving~~ cosmetic set of Claim 8, wherein ~~Component~~ component (a) is malic acid or a salt thereof, and ~~Component~~ component (b) is glycolic acid or lactic acid, or a salt thereof.

Claim 10 (Canceled).

Claim 11 (New): The method according to claim 5, wherein (a) the at least one polycarboxylic acid is selected from the group consisting of malonic acid, succinic acid, glutaric acid, adipic acid, maleic acid, fumaric acid, phthalic acid, oxalic acid, malic acid, tartaric acid and citric acid.

Claim 12 (New): The method according to claim 5, wherein (a) the at least one polycarboxylic acid is present in composition A in an amount of 0.1 to 20 wt%.

Claim 13 (New): The method according to claim 5, wherein (b) the at least one hydroxymonocarboxylic acid is selected from the group consisting of glycolic acid and lactic acid.

Claim 14 (New): The method according to claim 5, wherein (b) the at least one hydroxymonocarboxylic acid is present in composition B in an amount of 0.1 to 20 wt%.

Claim 15 (New): The method according to claim 5, wherein (c) the aromatic alcohol is selected from the group consisting of benzyl alcohol, cinnamyl alcohol, phenethyl alcohol, p-anisyl alcohol, p-methylbenzyl alcohol, phenoxyethanol and 2-benzyloxyethanol.

Claim 16 (New): The method according to claim 5, wherein (c) the alkylene carbonate is selected from the group consisting of ethylene carbonate and propylene carbonate.

Claim 17 (New): The method according to claim 5, wherein (c) the polyol is selected from the group consisting of ethylene glycol, glycerin, sorbitol, propylene glycol, 1,3-butylene glycol, dipropylene glycol, and polypropylene glycol.

Claim 18 (New): The method according to claim 5, wherein (c) the at least one organic solvent is present in each of compositions A and B in an amount of 0.1 to 20 wt%.

Claim 19 (New): The method according to claim 5, wherein the weight ratio of (a)/(c) is from 0.6 to 1.5.

Claim 20 (New): The method according to claim 5, wherein the weight ratio of (b)/(c) is from 0.25 to 1.0.

Claim 21 (New): The method according to claim 5, wherein the pH at 25°C of each of compositions A and B is from 3 to 3.9 when diluted to 20 times by weight with water.

Claim 22 (New): The method according to claim 5, wherein composition A is applied to the hair before composition B.